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Seven cornerback free agent fits for Eagles. 20

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CANINE LIFELINE

Local SPCA opens its doors to 50 dogs from neighbor ACCT during renovation — possibly sparing some from euthanasia. 4

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SUV INJURES 12 STUDENTS IN ALABAMA PARADE

1 An SUV driven by an elderly man plowed into a Mardi Gras parade crowd in Gulf Shores, Alabama, on Tuesday, injuring a dozen members of a high school marching band and prompting the event to be canceled, city and police officials said. Of the 12 students hurt, four were critically injured, Gulf Shores spokesman Grant Brown said at a news conference. The driver, who was not identified,

did not suffer any injuries and had not been charged. "This was not involving drugs or alcohol, nor is there any indication that this was an intentional act," Gulf Shores Police Chief Edward Delmore told reporters. "Every indication is that this was just a tragic accident by an elderly man driving his vehicle." REUTERS

MARCH RATE HIKE UP FOR 'SERIOUS CONSIDERATION'

2 With the U.S. economy at full employment and inflation moving back up toward the central bank's goal of 2 percent, the Federal Reserve could raise borrowing costs again as soon as next month, San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank President John Williams signaled on Tuesday. "In my view, a rate increase is very much on the table for serious consideration at our March meeting," Williams said in remarks prepared for delivery to the Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce. "We need to gradually ease our foot off the gas in order to avoid a 'too hot' economy that in the end isn't sustainable." The Fed lifted interest rates last December for only the second time since the financial crisis, and last month left them unchanged to give the labor market more room to improve. REUTERS

BUSH: HOPEFUL DESPITE 'PRETTY UGLY' CLIMATE

3 Former President George W. Bush has described the political climate in Washington as "pretty ugly" under Donald Trump's presidency but expressed optimism the United States would pull through despite the divisive political discourse. "I don't like the racism and I don't like the name-calling and I don't like the people feeling alienated," Bush, 70, said in an interview with

People magazine that will hit newsstands on Friday. "Nobody likes that." Promoting his first art book "Portraits of Courage: A Commander in Chief's Tribute to America's Warriors," Bush said, however, that he felt no anxiety about the direction the country was headed in. REUTERS

TEAM ENGLAND IN PHILLY

5 Ellen White of Team England kicks the ball during their training session as Steph Houghton looks on at Lincoln Financial Field on Tuesday. GETTY IMAGES

XBOX UNVEILS $9.99 MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTION

4 Microsoft Corp.'s Xbox division said on Tuesday it would launch a $9.99-per-month subscription service that will allow gamers to play more than 100 Xbox One and "backward compatible" Xbox 360 video games. The service, "Xbox Game Pass," will allow subscribers to download games directly to a console and play them online as well as offline, Phil Spencer, head of Xbox, said in a blog post. The subscription will only be available on Microsoft's Xbox One video game console and devices running its Windows 10 operating system. The service, which will launch later this spring, will include games such as "LEGO Batman," Microsoft's "Halo 5: Guardians" and Take-Two Interactive Software Inc.'s "NBA 2K16." "Xbox Game Pass" subscribers will also be able to buy games in the catalog at a discount. REUTERS

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ERIN TIERNAN, WEB REPORTER

President Donald Trump was back at the bully pulpit last night for his biggest speech yet — his address to the joint sessions of Congress. For reactions and the play by play, head to **metro.us/politics.**

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The Philadelphia Animal Care and Control Team (ACCT) is undergoing renovations, which has halved the number of dogs they are able to house until the work is complete. ALL IMAGES CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Kennel renovation could spare the lives of sick and unwanted dogs

The PSCPA will take in 50 dogs while ACCT Philly undergoes repair work.

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Philadelphia's Animal Care & Control Team had a problem, but that might be good news for sick and unadoptable dogs that could face euthanization at the shelter.

The shelter, known as ACCT Philly, was planning to replace its heating and ventilation system. But during that period, it would not be able to house 50 of its 100 dogs.

To the rescue came its neighbor, the Philadelphia SPCA, which has agreed to provide kennel space for the required two months of work.

ACCT Philly, which operates on a city contract to provide animal control services, does euthanize sick or unadoptable animals. ACCT Philly is required to accept all animals or find alternate placement. An estimated 23,000 animals pass through its shelter a year.

The PSPCA, a donor-funded nonprofit dedicated to preventing animal cruelty, is considered a "no-kill" shelter.

So while ACCT Philly is making do with the smaller facility, the PSPCA will help safely shelter some of the extra pups.

"When ACCT Philly approached us asking for assistance during this time of need, we wanted to help in any way possible," said Julie Klim, PSPCA CEO. "We regularly pull dogs from ACCT Philly, including those in need of medical assistance."

ACCT Philly and the PSCPA are the two biggest animal shelters in the city.

When repairs are completed, it is unlikely any of the dogs will be returned to ACCT Philly, meaning they would not be euthanized if no one adopts them.

"The goal of the partnership is to minimize euthanasia, take the pressure off as ACCT Philly undergoes renovations, and ultimately to save more lives in the city of Philadelphia," the organizations said in a joint statement.

While renovations are underway, people who would otherwise bring stray or lost dogs to ACCT Philly should now bring them to the PSPCA.

"It's a good step forward that our organizations can work forward hand-in-hand for the betterment of Philadelphia," said ACCT Philly spokeswoman Ame Dorminy. "They don't have to help us, but they want to."

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Pennsylvania didn't fare well in a ranking of best states by the U.S. News and World Report. ALL IMAGES GETTY IMAGES

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A general view of the Philadelphia skyline

Pennsylvania rated mediocre on publication's 'Best States' list

The state was ranked among the bottom third.

ALEXIS SACHDEV
@lexsachdev
alexis.sachdev@metro.us

What makes a state the best? Is it great education, or access to and affordability of health care? Or do safety and infrastructure top the list?

Turns out, it's all of the above, and more.

Unfortunately, Pennsylvania is lacking in many qualities that make for a superlative state, according to U.S. News and World Report. Pennsylvania ranked 30th in the publication's "Best States" assessment.

The ranking is based on seven key metrics. Health care, education, crime and corrections, infrastructure, opportunity, economy and government all factor in a state's score.

Pennsylvania was rated best in the crime and corrections category, ranking 14th in the nation. The state ranked 11th in the subcategory of public safety and 35th in corrections.

The state's economy was ranked 39th in the nation. The economy metric includes such factors as growth, employment and the business environment. A problem area: job growth, in which the state ranked 47th in the nation.

Massachusetts topped the Best States list.

New Hampshire, Minnesota, North Dakota and Washington rounded out the top five. Louisiana was ranked the worst state, preceded by Mississippi, Arkansas, Alabama and New Mexico.

Best known for its ranking of universities and colleges, U.S. News and World Report's Best State ranking is a new effort by the website. Government and private sources were used to determine the roster, which the publication says it created to renew focus on the states.

"We pay too much attention to Washington, and not enough to the states," editor and chief content officer Brian Kelly said. "And yet, you look at the states and all of the issues we talk about in broad strokes are playing out there — education and health care and crime, the economy and jobs."

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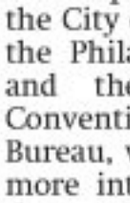
NFL draft to bring 200,000 fans, generate $80M in economic impact, officials say

Here's everything you need to know about the NFL draft when it comes to Philly.



EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
evan.macy@metro.us

The NFL draft is going all-out in Philly when the offseason's biggest event makes a stop in Fairmount in late April.

Draftees will ascend the famous Philadelphia Museum of Art "Rocky" steps to shake Commissioner Roger Goodell's hand as fans watch inside a temporary 2,000-seat theater that will stretch from the podium to the Franklin Institute along Ben Franklin Parkway. The theater will include a gigantic NFL Draft Experience exhibit.

"We are thrilled to bring our largest fan festival ever, spanning the size of 25 football fields, to Philadelphia," Peter O'Reilly, the NFL senior vice president of events, said in a ceremony Tuesday. "Thanks to our partnership with the City of Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Eagles and the Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau, we are bringing more interactive attractions to the NFL Draft Experience and creating life-long memories that fans will never forget."

The Eagles will have the 14th or 15th pick — pending a coin flip with the Colts later this week — and Birds fans will no doubt pack the area from April 27-29. Tickets are expected to be very difficult to get and most will restrict fans to the NFL Experience grounds.

Even so, the city is enthused to be on the national stage once again.

"We stand ready to welcome visitors and residents to this one-of-a-kind experience," Mayor Jim Kenney said. "Philadelphia received international praise as an excellent host for both the pope and the Democratic National Convention, and we are very excited to add the NFL to our guest list."

The draft will bring with it as many highlights as headaches, as the art museum area will be unpassable prior to and after the draft. But the benefits, according to the organizers, are hard to deny.

"We are excited to welcome 200,000 football fans to Philadelphia this April who will generate an estimated $80 million in economic impact for our city," said visitors bureau President & CEO Julie Coker Graham. "The NFL draft is truly a great opportunity for Philadelphia to shine on the national and international stage."

Offerings for fans at the NFL Experience include:

Combine Corner — From racing against NFL players to running routes, fans can test their football and athletic skills at Combine Corner, which includes the vertical jump and 40-yard dash.

NFL virtual reality — Experience NFL games using virtual reality technology.

NFL Museum (Pro Football Hall of Fame display area) — This exhibit features historic Eagles memorabilia, Super Bowl rings and conference championship trophies. Fans can get a digitalized Pro Football Hall of Fame bronze bust in their likeness.

College Football Corner — Fans can view College Football Hall of Fame memorabilia from former first round draft picks and Eagles legends, and cheer on draft prospects from their favorite college team. Life-size player mannequins offer unique photo opportunities.

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Clinical research studies evaluate medications and medical devices on patients to make sure they are safe and effective prior to being released to the general public.

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					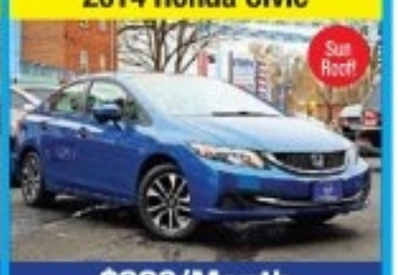
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				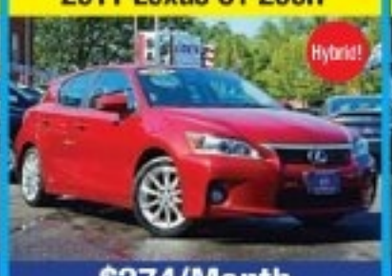	
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	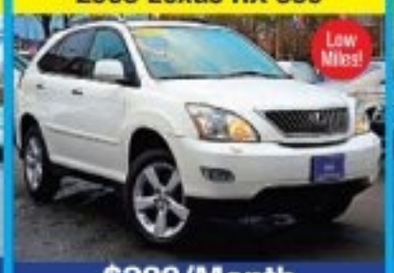				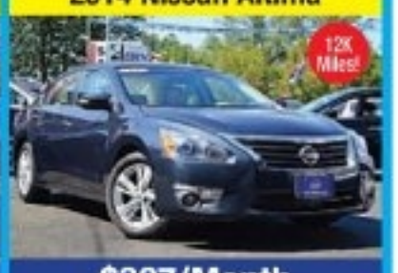
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NSA risks talent exodus amid morale slump, Trump fears

The breadth of any exodus from the NSA and other intelligence agencies is difficult to quantify.

"Morale is as low as I've ever seen it."
A former senior NSA official

The National Security Agency risks a brain-drain of hackers and cyberspies due to a tumultuous reorganization and worries about the acrimonious relationship between the intelligence community and President Donald Trump, according to current and former NSA officials and cybersecurity industry sources.

Half-a-dozen cybersecurity executives told Reuters they had witnessed a marked increase in the number of U.S. intelligence officers and government contractors seeking employment in the private sector since Trump took office on Jan. 20.

One of the executives, who would speak only on condition of anonymity, said he was stunned by the caliber of the would-be recruits. They are coming from a variety of government intelligence and law enforcement agencies, multiple executives said, and their interest stems in part from concerns about the direction of U.S intelligence agencies under Trump.

Retaining and recruiting talented technical personnel has become a top national security priority in recent years as Russia, China, Iran and other nation states and criminal groups have sharpened their cyber offensive abilities. NSA and other intelligence agencies have long struggled to deter some of their best employees from leaving for higher-paying jobs in Silicon Valley and elsewhere.

The problem is especially acute at NSA, current and former officials said, due to a reorganization known as NSA21 that began last year and aims to merge the agency's electronic eavesdropping and domestic cybersecurity operations.

The two-year overhaul includes expanding parts

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The National Security Agency headquarters Fort Meade, Maryland GETTY IMAGES

of NSA that deal with business management and human resources and putting them on par with research and engineering. The aim is to "ensure that we're using all of our resources to maximum effect to accomplish our mission," NSA Director Mike Rogers said.

The changes include new management structures that have left some career employees uncertain about their missions and prospects. Former employees say the reorganization has failed to address widespread concerns that the agency is falling behind in exploiting private-sector technological breakthroughs.

A former top NSA official said he had been told by three current officials that budget problems meant there was too little money for promotions. That is especially important for younger employees, who sometimes need two jobs to make ends meet in the expensive Washington, D.C. area, the official said.

"Morale is as low as I've ever seen it," said another former senior NSA official, who maintains close contact with current employees.

Asked about the risk of losing talent from NSA and other agencies, White House spokesman Michael Anton said Trump had sought to reassure the intelligence community by visiting the CIA headquarters on his first full day in office.

Anton also pointed to the military spending increase in Trump's budget proposal released on Monday.

It will likely take more than a visit to the CIA to patch up relations with the intelligence community, the current and former officials said.

Trump has attacked findings from intelligence agencies that Russia hacked emails belonging to Democratic Party operatives during the 2016 presidential campaign to help him win, though he did eventually accept the findings.

In January, Trump accused intelligence agencies of leaking false information and said it was reminiscent of tactics used in Nazi Germany. REUTERS

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Russia, China block UN sanctions on Syria over gas attacks

Vladimir Safronkov GETTY IMAGES

China backed Russia and cast its sixth veto on Syria. Russia had said the vote on the resolution, drafted by France, Britain and the United States, would harm U.N.-led peace talks between the warring Syrian parties in Geneva, which began last week.

Russia on Tuesday cast its seventh veto to protect the Syrian government from United Nations Security Council action, blocking a bid by Western powers to impose sanctions over accusations of chemical weapons attacks during the six-year Syrian conflict.

Nine council members voted in favor, Bolivia voted against, while Egypt, Ethiopia and Kazakhstan abstained. A resolution needs nine votes in favor and no vetoes by the United States, France, Russia, Britain or China to be adopted.

Russian President Vladimir Putin described the draft resolution on Tuesday as "totally inappropriate."

"For my friends in Russia, this resolution is very appropriate," U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley told the council after the vote.

"It is a sad day on the Security Council when members start making excuses for other member states killing their own people. The world is definitely a more dangerous place," she said.

The vote was one of the first confrontations at the United Nations between Russia and the United States since U.S. President Donald Trump took office in January, pledging to build closer ties with Moscow.

Russia's Deputy U.N. Ambassador Vladimir Safronkov described the statements made against Moscow in the Security Council as "outrageous" and declared that "God will judge you."

"Today's clash or confrontation is not a result of our negative vote. It is a result of the fact that you decided on provocation while you knew well ahead of time our position," said Safronkov.

Western powers put forward the resolution in response to the results of an investigation by the U.N. and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

The international inquiry found Syrian government forces were responsible for three chlorine gas attacks and that Islamic State militants had used mustard gas.

British U.N. Ambassador Matthew Rycroft told the council before the vote: "This is about taking a stand when children are poisoned. It's that simple. It's about taking a stand when civilians are maimed and murdered with toxic weapons."

Chlorine's use as a weapon is banned under the Chemical Weapons Convention, which Syria joined in 2013. If inhaled, chlorine gas turns to hydrochloric acid in the lungs and can kill by burning lungs and drowning victims in body fluids. REUTERS

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US judge to rule on Dakota Access Pipeline easement in early March

Dakota Access Pipeline water protectors GETTY IMAGES

A U.S. judge said he hopes to decide by about March 7 on a request by Native American tribes for the Army Corps of Engineers to withdraw an easement on religious grounds for the final link of the Dakota Access Pipeline.

At a hearing Judge James Boasberg of the U.S. Court in Washington, D.C., said he hoped to provide a written ruling by that time on the injunction requested by the Standing Rock Sioux and Cheyenne River Sioux tribes regarding the final section of the line to go under a lake in North Dakota.

Boasberg said if Energy Transfer Partners, the company building the $3.8 billion line, expects the project will be completed and oil will flow before March 7, that the company must give him 48 hours notice so he can release his ruling.

The tribes, who have rights to water access in the area, say that the oil pipeline would spiritually degrade river and lake water and harm religious practices even if it does not spill.

Their legal options to stop the pipeline are dwindling.

Earlier this month, Boasberg denied a request by the tribes for a temporary restraining order to halt construction.

Boasberg questioned how the water could be harmed since the pipeline is being built under the Lake Oahe and oil would not likely touch the water in the event of a spill.

Nicole Ducheneaux, a lawyer for the tribes, said at the hearing that the pipeline would spiritually degrade the water on the Missouri River because of its presence and that would prevent tribes from carrying out ceremonies because other nearby water sources had been contaminated. REUTERS

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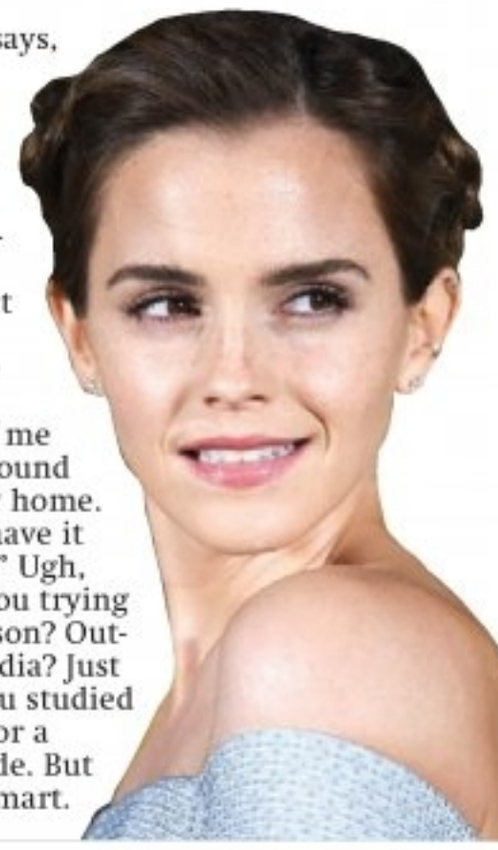
Wait, did Ilana Glazer have a supersecret wedding?

Ilana Glazer — queen of "Broad City," and therefore, our hearts — has married her longtime boyfriend, David Rooklin, in a supersecret ceremony. And the proof is just hanging out on Instagram, apparently. A source tells us the couple, who are very private, wed at City Hall early this week. City Hall — really in with the young people these days, eh?

Rooklin is a scientist and, according to The New Yorker, "a trim, clean-cut white man in his 30s." Chill. I'm so happy for these two. Both "Broad City" and Ilana are my everything. A heaping of congratulations to the happy couple!

This is why Emma Watson won't take a selfie with you



Even though she's a celebrity, Emma Watson just wants a simple kind of life. In an interview with Vanity Fair, the 26-year-old shared why, exactly, privacy is so important to her: It comes down to being able to have a life or not. "If someone takes a photograph of me and posts it ... they can see what I'm wearing and who I'm with. I have to carefully pick and choose my moment to interact." OK, fine. So you don't want us plebians tracking your every move. But why won't you tell us about your boyfriend, huh?

"I want to be consistent," she says, according to Elle. "I can't talk about my boyfriend in an interview and then expect people not to take paparazzi pictures of me walking around outside my home. You can't have it both ways." Ugh, what are you trying to do, Watson? Outfox the media? Just because you studied at Brown for a while?! Rude. But also very smart.

Oh, great, Penn Badgley is a married man

Ugh, love is in the air or whatever. "Gossip Girl" himself, Penn Badgley, had a surprise, low-key wedding Monday. His blushing bride? Domino Kirke, sister of Jemima, star of "Girls," and Lola, star of "Mozart in the Jungle." The two were married in a Brooklyn courthouse, in what I assume was a very chill ceremony.

Each of the sisters Kirke congratulated the couple in a way to casually make it all about them. Jemima took to Twitter to lovingly say "Congratulations ya sh*theads! @PennBadgley and @DominoKirke it's all downhill from here. In a good way!" How charming!

Lola posted a photo on Instagram, noting that a courthouse wedding is the perfect opportunity to steal the show away from the married couple. "When someone gets married in a courthouse, it's really an open invitation to everyone but the beautiful bride to explore all fashion has to offer," she wrote. What an inspiration!

For what it's worth, Badgley, 30, has proved time and time again that he has pretty good taste, having dated both Blake Lively and, my personal fave, Zoe Kravitz. Congrats, or whatever!

INSTAGRAM/@ DOMINOKIRKE

the word

RACHAEL CLEMMONS
rachael.clemmons@metro.us

Saint West is incredibly hard to impress

Kim Kardashian recently took to Twitter to share a couple photos of her 14-month-old son, Saint West. And if he wasn't already, he's now in the running to being America's favorite baby. I mean, look at those cheeks! How could one even try to resist cheeks like those?! The 36-year-old reality star shared the photos from a recent family trip to Costa Rica. My favorite thing about this is how deeply unimpressed Saint is. In those beautiful dark brown eyes, I see repressed resignation and an intense feeling of, "I'm over this, Mom. Just give me some pureed peaches, or whatever." Kudos to Saint West for being the realest dude in his family.

Is Paris big enough for Selena, Bella & The Weeknd?

Selena Gomez, The Weeknd and Bella Hadid are all in Paris right now, and there is a lot of speculation about what exactly might go down. My guess? Absolutely nothing. Paris is a big city. And, technically, these people are adults. Technically.

According to TMZ, Selena and The Weeknd — aka Abel Tesfaye — were spotted hanging out at their hotel, which is just a hop, skip and casual jog away from the one where Bella is staying. The Weeknd is there for a gig, Bella is there for Paris Fashion Week and I guess Selena is just hanging out with her boyfriend, as girlfriends do. For what it's worth, I believe, truly in my heart, that you are allowed to be in the same city at the same time as your ex. Also, who has time for drama when you're eating the best pastries in the world?

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

The huge mix-up at the 2017 Oscars on Sunday night was one for the books. GETTY IMAGES

The worst live-TV fails of all time

In honor of the disaster at the Oscars, we look back at other uh-oh moments.

JENNIFER LOGUE
@jenniferlogue
jennifer.logue@metro.us

There's nothing quite as exhilarating as a live television broadcast — anything could happen, and usually does. Sunday night's huge fail at the Oscars got us reflecting on other blunders in live TV events. From the boob seen round the world at Super Bowl XXXVIII to Ashlee Simpson's lip-sync disaster on "SNL," there have been quite a few memorable ones. Here is our list of worst live-TV fails of all time.

Jennifer Lawrence trips at the 2013 Oscars

OK, this wasn't so bad because Jennifer Lawrence owns everything she does — including tripping on her way up to receive her Oscar for Best Actress for her role in "Silver Linings Playbook."

Steve Harvey announces the wrong winner at Miss Universe

Remember in 2015 when Steve Harvey, host of Miss Universe, awarded the top prize to the wrong contestant? Ouch. He announced Ariadna Gutierrez Arevalo (Miss Colombia), but Pia Alonzo Wurtzbach (Miss Philippines) was the real winner.

Janet Jackson's "Nipplegate"

Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake gave a strong performance at Super Bowl XXXVIII, but it was overshadowed by her wardrobe whoopsie, when her breast was exposed on live television for a split second. It became one of the most searched items in internet history, according to Guinness World Records.

John Travolta butchers Idina Menzel's name at the Oscars

For such a big night, people do make a lot of mistakes. Maybe it's nerves? John Travolta completely messed up Idina Menzel's name when he announced her performance of "Let It Go" from the film, "Frozen" at the 2014 Oscars. He called her "Adele Dazeem." Perhaps she can use it as her alter ego, like Beyonce's Sasha Fierce.

Ashlee Simpson's lip-sync fail on SNL

It doesn't get more awkward than this. Remember back in 2004 when Ashlee Simpson had a reality TV show and an album chock-full of catchy pop-rock tunes? Those days are a distant memory since she obliterated her burgeoning career with this lip-sync catastrophe. The vocal tracks for a song that she already "sang" played over the song she was supposed to be singing. Simpson nervously breaks out into a weird "hoedown" dance in response. Yikes!

Mariah Carey's disastrous "New Year's Rockin' Eve" performance

If you're going to mess up a live performance and be exposed for lip syncing, channel your inner Mariah and own it. Mariah had issues hearing her vocals on the monitor and stopped singing completely. Not breaking a sweat, she truly gave no f—s and phoned in the rest of the performance.

#OscarGate 2017

Nothing can compare to last night's live TV disaster, however. The Oscars are Hollywood's biggest night, and the Best Picture award is the biggest accolade. To mess that up so royally really is stranger than fiction. We bet Steve Harvey is relieved that Twitter trolls now have Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway to rely on for epic fail memes. We just feel bad that "Moonlight's" big moment was overshadowed by the mix-up.

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JENNIFER LOGUE
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Philly is famous for being a foodie paradise and East Passyunk is a veritable treasure trove of fantastic restaurants. For the fifth year in a row, the neighborhood celebrates all things food for East Passyunk Restaurant Week, which kicked off on Monday and runs through Friday, March 10.

Pam Zenzola, executive director of East Passyunk Avenue Business Improvement District, tells us that out of the 24 restaurants participating this year, six of them have three bell reviews from famed Philly food critic, Craig LaBann:

"We have so many restaurants that are just wonderful. Why not feature them and show the rest of the tristate area who we are and what we have to offer? Restaurant weeks are great to do, especially in months that people don't go out," she says.

There are three tiers of menus being offered to satisfy different budgets: $15, $25 and $35.

For a wholesome yet casual meal, $15 will get you a three-course lunch or dinner at P'unk Burger and Stogie Joe's. (P'unk has an amazing lamb feta mint burger. Wash it down with a vanilla and Nutella milkshake!)

Moving up to the $25 tier, diners can eat a three-course meal at staples like Bing Bing Dim Sum and Marra's. (The homemade cannoli for dessert at Marra's is a must-try.)

Finally, $35 can get you a three-course meal at 16 different local restaurants which include Brigantessa, Le Virtu, Townsend, Izumi, Noord and more. (Townsend has gotten regular shoutouts in our "Eat Like an Insider" column for their impeccable French cuisine.)

Zenzola hopes East Passyunk Restaurant Week will encourage people in Center City and the suburbs to dine in her neighborhood. "Everybody should come because there truly is something for everyone," she says.

And how about parking? Zenzola says that's all been thought of as well for this special week:

"There is valet parking. Tuesday through Sunday, there's two spots: one at the 1900 block and one right at The [Singing] Fountain. On Friday and Saturday, we'll have a third spot and that'll be on the 1600 block."

For more information, visit: eastpassyunkrestaurantweek.com.

We're obsessed with this new wallpaper

Rebecca Atwood and Chasing Paper teamed up for a gorgeous, affordable collection.

TINA CHADHA
@TinaatMetro
tina.chadha@metro.us

Spring is around the corner, meaning it's time to un-hygge: Shed the heavy curtains, woolly throws and plush pillows that are currently cozying up your homes and lighten things up.

Chasing Paper is here to help. The removable-wallpaper brand — which makes it easy for renters to ditch sterile white walls and personalize their space while still holding onto that security deposit — partnered with dreamy-textile designer Rebecca Atwood for a limited-edition spring line that has us swooning.

The collection, which launched this week, consists of four brand new prints (clouds, stripes, dots and fleur, a play on a leaf pattern) in Atwood's signature watercolor style and CP's affordable price (each 2-x-4-foot panel will sell for $40).

"A lot of the prints, like the fleur and the stripes, are very traditional in the wallpaper space, but done in a new, very modern way," says Chasing Paper founder Elizabeth Rees.

And listen up, moms: The sweet painterly prints work just as well for a nursery or kids' room as they do for your entryway.

"The clouds, especially, were made [with] kids in mind," says Rees.

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Sam Worthington finds religion (sort of)

The "Avatar" isn't much of a believer, but he got a lot out of being in "The Shack."

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
matt.prigge@metro.us

Onscreen, Sam Worthington tends to play quiet, taciturn: the driven heroes of "Avatar," "Clash of the Titan" and "Terminator: Salvation." But get him talking, and you'll learn a lot. Did you know the actor can be a bit of a nerd? He loves disappearing down Google rabbit holes, or reading books about the history of places where he's filming. He was even very open to making "The Shack," which is technically Hollywood's latest Christian movie, but to him was an honest drama about a man dealing with grief.

Based on the best-seller, the film stars Worthington as a man who meets embodiments of the Holy Trinity (led by Octavia Spencer) after the murder of his young daughter.

You're not a very religious person, but this is technically a religious movie.

Some people think of it as a Christian movie. I never looked at it that way. I don't look at all action movies as action movies, or all thrillers as thrillers. That's something that helps split up Blockbuster video stores. I just found it to be an interesting story about a man who has to learn to forgive himself, and forgive God, and forgive the people who have done him wrong.

The best religious movies are really about other things. "The Shack" is about forgiveness and dealing with trauma.

That's how I look at the Bible. The Bible is like a guideline for how to live a better life. The idea of "The Shack" is learning to forgive others and that the healing process is going to take time. It doesn't happen automatically.

Octavia Spencer helps Sam Worthington grapple with unimaginable tragedy in "The Shack," based on the bestseller and in theaters Friday. JAKE GILES NETTER

It's a topic most of us don't like to think about.

We're all going to have some kind of tragedy in our life. Someone we love will die. How do we get past that? There's always going to be someone to help you with that, whether it's family or loved ones or God. We all think we're communicating on our iPhones, but in reality it distances us more. Sometimes we do feel all alone on this planet, and it's nice to have a movie that argues otherwise.

GETTY IMAGES

Social media is great for finding people, but you should meet your online friends in real life.

I don't have any social media. But I'm trying to be more social in my real life. My son's at the age when he's starting to discover what friendship is. To be honest, I'm still trying to figure that out, too.

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They say the only thing you can't change about a home is its location. The rest? Gut it, restore it, paint it, knock it down, build it up, or whatever your heart desires.

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"I used to live right up the block from this house and always loved it," listing agent Wesley Kays-Henry told Metro. "No one could look at this place and think it's anywhere but South Philly."

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On the third floor, there are two more bedrooms — one with a Juliet balcony! — and a laundry room and full bath.

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7 Free agent cornerbacks Eagles should try to sign

There are a lot of big-name cornerbacks available on the open market.

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
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Leodis McKelvin has been let go and Nolan Carroll, more or less a replacement-level cornerback, is an unrestricted free agent. The Eagles have really one NFL cornerback on the roster in Jalen Mills who will play in his second season in 2017.

After trading away Eric Rowe for a draft pick, the Eagles undoubtedly have an enormous need at cornerback. They'll no doubt address it in April's NFL draft, but there is still a big opening available for a veteran corner.

Here's a brief look at seven corners who could make big impacts on the Eagles secondary if they are inked in March:

1 Stephon Gilmore (26 years old, 48 tackles, 5 INT in 2016)

Want a ball hawk? Gilmore is your man. He has 14 interceptions over the last five NFL seasons and is young enough to be seeking his second NFL contract. Spotrac.com contemplates he will be worth over $13 million per season — a high price tag. He was the 10th overall pick in Buffalo and will be looking to get paid like one — but perhaps a discount could be in the cards for former coach Jim Schwartz, currently Philly's defensive coordinator.

2 A.J. Bouye (25 years old, 63 tackles, INT)

Bouye could be the cream of the crop, hailing from a dominating Texans defensive squad. He'll be in high demand due to his age and his ability to shut down a wide receiver. The Eagles wouldn't be wrong to offer him a big contract, but the have had a terrible track record offering big deals to free agent corners and the price could be very high.

3 Logan Ryan (26 years old, 92 tackles FF, 2 INT)

Ryan seemingly came out of nowhere and was a very important piece of the Patriots' defense as they won yet another Super Bowl this month. He still could return to New England but they have a lot of free agents to take care of. Ryan will command a contract somewhere in between the high and low end and would be a good fit in Philly

4 Marcus Cooper (27 years old, 69 tackles, 4 INT)

Cooper was a bit of a sleeper heading into 2016, having never started more than six games in a season before starting 13 for Arizona. He's a former seventh round pick and doesn't have a long history of success like Gilmore, so he could be had for cheaper.

Is a Stephon Gilmore-Jim Schwartz reunion in the Eagles' future? GETTY IMAGES

5 Darius Butler (30 years old, 33 tackles, FF, 3 INT)

Butler has had a very solid nine-year NFL career and has had relative health. His veteran voice would be useful in the Eagles' inexperienced locker room and he's been able to create his share of turnovers during his career. At 30, he is more affordable, likely in the $4 million range.

6 Prince Amukamara (27 years old, 49 tackles)

Eagles fans know Amukamara from the Giants. He's solid, was a former first rounder and has a Super Bowl ring from his rookie season in New York. Due to his long history of playing corner, he'll be worth at least seven figures per season.

7 Trumaine Johnson (27 years old, 57 tackles, INT)

Johnson had seven interceptions in 2015 and has 16 over a five-year career. He earned more than $13 million last season in Los Angeles and will likely be looking for the same pay rate in 2017.

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Bringing the power: Phillies lead all MLB teams in homers this spring

Can the Phillies regain their form as a team that loves the long ball?

EVAN MACY
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The Phillies have an embarrassment of riches on offense this season.

With so many closely grouped, young talented players fighting for 25 roster spots, there has been impressive play by both household names — like Maikel Franco (who started the spring with four hits in five at bats) — and dark horses Scott Kingery, Pedro Floirmon and Brock Stassi, all of whom have been showing off their bats in Clearwater.

The Phillies have hit 11 homers this spring, the most of any team, through its first five games. During the regular season last year, Philly hit 161 homers, just below one per game.

Playing in Citizens Bank Park, power is an asset the Phillies will need in spades if they hope to return to contention. It looks like the incoming roster might be more power oriented than the futile squads of the previous four seasons. And that's good for the Phillies.

Franco in particular is once again flashing the potential to be an intimidating middle of the order bat for the Phillies for years to come: the kind of guy whose at bats will be must see TV for fans like Ryan Howard's were from 2005-2011.

Can Franco be that guy?

"That's a good sign for what's to come from him," Pete Mackanin said of Franco and his three homers (one of them inside the park), most in spring training, so far. "I'm looking forward to seeing him continue that approach. I think he's going to be working towards a good year."

Expectations are sky high for Phillies third baseman Maikel Franco. GETTY IMAGES

Franco slammed 25 home runs and 88 RBI in 2016, his first full season in the bigs. His coaches expect even more from him — all he needs is confidence in discipline (to improve upon his .255 average).

"He knows he has power and I think he's starting to realize how much power he has," Phillies hitting coach Matt Stairs also said, via Delawareonline.com. "Young players, a year of experience helps them out. They learn their swing and realize, 'Hey, I don't have to swing out of my shoes to drive a ball out of the ballpark.'"

Tommy Joseph is another power bat and he hit his first homer of the spring Tuesday in a 7-5 spring training victory over the Orioles. Michael Saunders, the recently inked free agent outfielder, hit 24 homers last year and he'll likely start in a corner outfield spot. Odubel Herrera and rising catcher Jorge Alfaro can also go yard.

And then there are the young guns. Nick Williams, Rhys Hoskins and Dylan Cozens all have an outside chance of making the team and all have shown to have potent power swings.

The gap left by Howard's departure could be a nonstory in 2017 if the potential home runs keep showering South Philly's left field porch the way they are starting to on the west coast of Florida.

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Sixers fans will have to wait at least seven months before they get the chance to — hopefully — see Ben Simmons and Joel Embiid play together in Philly. GETTY IMAGES

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Incomplete Sixers have no identity anymore, no active stars on floor

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Without Ben Simmons and Joel Embiid, the Sixers have little star appeal.

ANDY JASNER
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At some point during 76ers home games, a picture is shown on the Jumbotron featuring two ultra-talented players.

There's only one problem: neither one is playing right now. Neither player may suit up the rest of the season.

Prized No. 1 overall pick Ben Simmons has already been ruled out for the remainder of the season while recovering from a second minor procedure on his foot. Joel Embiid, who flashed unbelievable skills in the 31 games he did play, is out indefinitely with swelling and soreness in his knee.

Ersan Ilyasova and Nerlens Noel were already shipped out before the trade deadline.

The Sixers are being extra cautious with Embiid and Simmons. That's understandable. When next season rolls around, the patient fan base needs to see this dynamic duo on the court. They need to see improvement in all areas. They need to see a legitimate free agent. Coach Brett Brown's fifth season will soon be here. It's time to start winning.

Minute restrictions and timetables don't seem to be the answer.

Let's start with Embiid. He wants to play. He has competed at an All-Star level. But he needs to be healthy.

"I think you have to be concerned about everything when you look at players and their health and their health status," Sixers President Bryan Colangelo said on Comcast SportsNet's "Philly Sports Talk" Monday. "What we've been told and what I have been indicated based on the scans and based on the things that we know to date is that everything is moving along. It's moving along perhaps not in a great fashion in that as indicated by the swelling and soreness."

Simmons suffered his foot injury in training camp. By all accounts, the former LSU standout was expected back before his rookie season concluded. It's not going to happen.

"It has been a disappointment more than a surprise," Colangelo said. "Every athlete or every human heals differently. The conditions that we put him in, we felt like we followed that same planned progression. The healing did not occur. The scans most recently showed that although there was improvement in scans in the development there, it wasn't enough and it wasn't fully healed and without full healing, we don't want to put him out on the court. So the procedure today, a minor procedure, bone marrow injection is simply a means of trying to stimulate bone growth and develop a stronger bone."

Through all the injuries, the Sixers are playing extremely hard for Brown. Undrafted players such as Robert Covington and T.J. McConnell are improving majorly. Without the franchise cornerstones, it's an incomplete project. Or process.

In 2017-18, Embiid and Simmons need to be there from Day 1. Other draft picks and talented players need to surround them along with key holdovers such as Dario Saric, Gerald Henderson and Richaun Holmes.

If minute restrictions or injury setbacks occur next season, this fan base is going to become antsy. And rightfully so.

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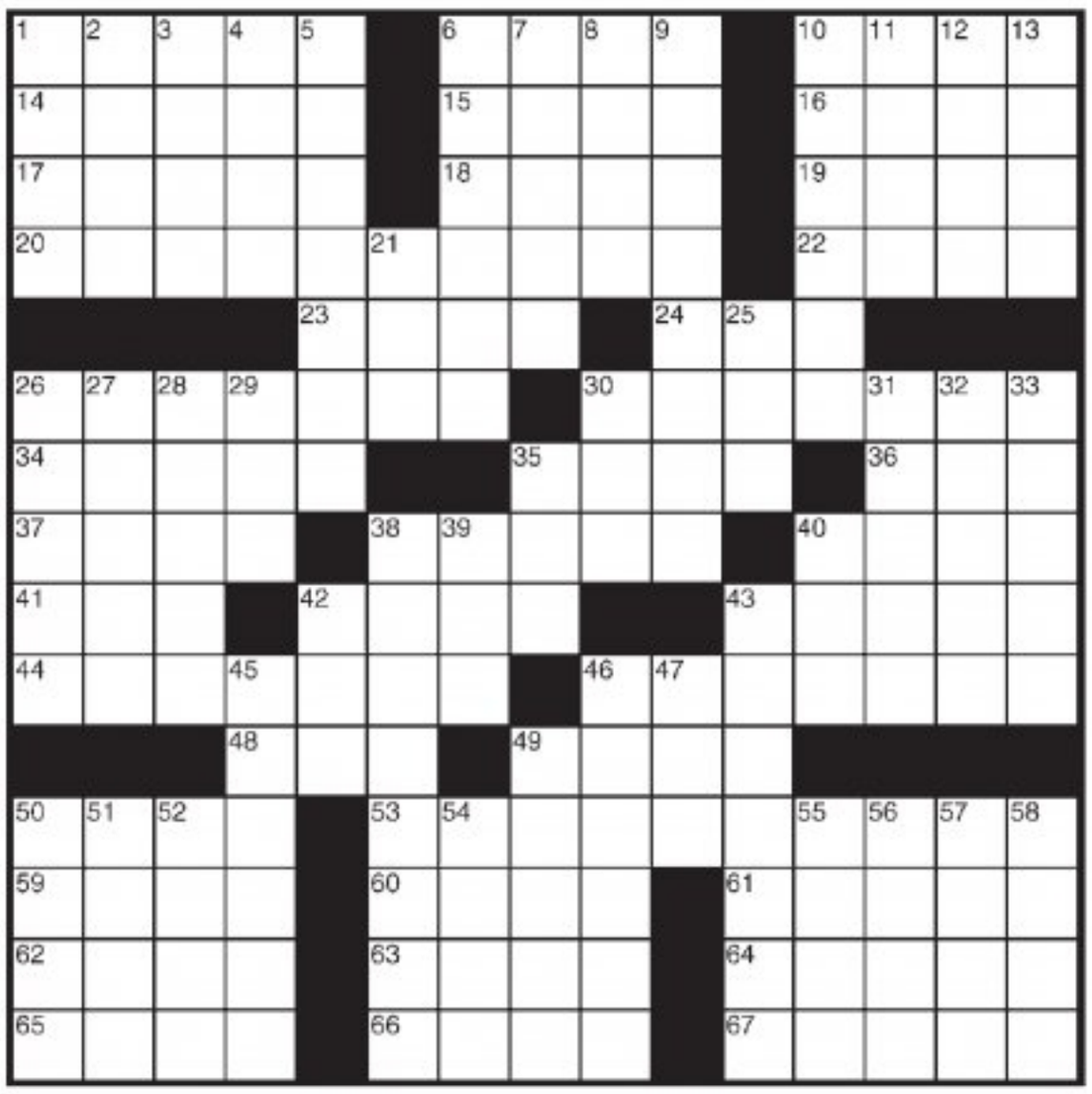

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Aries Emotionally charged issues will lead to trouble. Don't overreact if you want to avoid a battle. Concentrate on getting things done if you want to avoid complaints.

Taurus You will have difficulty figuring out whether to make a move or sit tight. Make sure that you have every detail in place before you proceed. Preparation is everything.

Gemini Don't feel that you must demonstrate your validity. If someone you are dealing with doesn't get what you are trying to do, proceed on your own.

Cancer Take a course that will help you live life your way. Step outside your comfort zone and you'll discover that unfamiliar territory isn't as scary as you anticipated.

Leo You should make self-improvement your goal. If you are proud of your accomplishments, others will recognize and honor what you achieve as well.

Virgo Someone will try to involve you in a dubious plan or pressure you into buying something you don't need. Be firm and you will avoid reckless behavior.

Libra Don't let minuscule problems spiral out of control. Address issues head-on, and do whatever needs to be done so that you can continue down your path of choice.

Scorpio Refuse to be a follower. Do your own thing and don't feel left out if no one joins you. The solitude will bring you peace of mind and insight into what's best for you.

Sagittarius Networking can bring about change if you are concise and only promise what you can deliver. Nurture relationships with those close to you.

Capricorn A trip or conference will cost more than anticipated. Don't jeopardize your financial position just to keep up with your peers, relatives or neighbors.

Aquarius Join forces with someone as talented and intelligent as you are. A physical change will add to your appeal. Romance is in the stars.

Pisces Don't feel compelled to share personal information. Only offer what will encourage others to help you reach your goals. Be honest regarding your plans. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

C	A	P	E	D	■	A	G	O	R	A	■	F	W	D
A	T	R	E	E	■	C	U	R	E	D	■	O	R	A
N	I	E	L	S	■	H	A	R	L	E	Q	U	I	N
A	P	E	■	T	H	E	M	■	■	P	U	L	S	E
■	■	M	A	R	E	S	■	A	R	T	I	S	T	S
E	M	P	L	O	Y	■	Y	I	E	L	D	■	■	■
B	I	T	T	Y	■	B	O	S	S	Y	■	L	A	P
O	R	E	O	■	F	A	U	L	T	■	F	O	W	L
N	E	D	■	D	R	I	V	E	■	M	E	T	O	O
■	■	■	B	E	A	L	E	■	C	O	S	T	L	Y
A	S	S	E	N	T	S	■	C	A	S	T	E	■	■
L	I	N	G	O	■	■	O	A	R	S	■	R	R	S
B	L	A	S	T	S	O	F	F	■	I	C	I	E	R
E	L	K	■	E	R	N	I	E	■	E	L	E	N	A
E	S	E	■	D	I	E	T	S	■	R	U	S	E	S

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Do you know someone who has been diagnosed with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder?

PRA Health Sciences is currently seeking participants for a medical research study. Qualified participants should be:

- **Diagnosed with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder**
- **Currently taking oral risperidone (Risperdal®)**
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